

## CONSULS QUIT MEXICO FOR CONFERENCE

All U. S. Agents in Southern Republic Ordered to El Paso to Make Reports.

### REAL FACTS WANTED HERE

Results of Meeting Will Be Transmitted Verbally to Make Sure of Completeness.

First-hand information regarding conditions in Mexico soon will be in the hands of the Administration, as the result of a conference of American consuls called at El Paso.

This information will be put in Major General Funston's hands and later brought personally to Washington.

The information and reports of the conference will be verbal, because the Administration wants facts without any reservation, which such a record might entail.

In some quarters the border conference is regarded as perhaps indicative of a change in policy toward Mexico. State Department officials claim there is no special occasion for the meeting, other than a desire to know the real truth on economic and political conditions in the interior.

### CONSULS CALLED.

The consuls who will participate are Schmitt, of Aguas Calientes; Letcher, of Chihuahua; Robertson, vice consul at Monterey; and Coen, acting vice consul at Durango.

It is assumed that Edwards at Juarez will also be present, although he is not ordered to take part. The consuls will report to General Funston, and at least one, probably Letcher, will come to Washington to make a verbal report.

While the military situation remained encouraging, what information the State Department has obtained about conditions within Mexico is none too favorable. Officials privately admit the monetary situation, the renewed activity of Zapatistas, the scarcity of food at certain points, the existence of typhus at many cities and other factors reported in recent months to the State Department constitute the basis for the Administration's desire for broader information.

Reports of a fight below the Big Bend and the relief of the American captives Deemer and Payne caused rejoicing among army men who believe the early dispersal of the Big Bend raiders will now soon be accomplished.

## American Bodies Found in Mexico

Men Missing Since Glenn Springs Raid Dead, Cattlemen Report.

MARATHON, Tex., May 18.—The bodies of three American mining prospectors, missing since the battle of Glenn Springs, have been found near San Vicente in the Big Bend desert country by a posse of cattlemen.

This news was brought by William Somers, a rancher, who arrived from the border today.

The names of the missing men are Harris, Woodson, and Bosworth. Reports from other points along the border indicate that following renewed warning by United States consuls, Americans in large numbers are coming out of Mexico.

## Obregon Denies Making Statement

MEXICO CITY, May 18.—Gen. Alvaro Obregon, minister of war, denied reports in circulation in the United States that he had expressed confidence that President Wilson did not contemplate war with Mexico.

"I have made a public declaration of confidence that President Wilson does not contemplate war with Mexico," said General Obregon. "I have made no declaration, public or private, regarding international relations since leaving El Paso."

## American Troops Beat Villistas at Own Game

FIELD HEADQUARTERS, NEAR NAMIQUIPA, Mex. (by courier to Columbus, N. M.) May 18.—"When in Mexico—go the Villistas one better."

## RIGGS DEFENSE OBJECTS TO THIRD RECALL OF WITNESS

"Judicial Discretion" Is Made Basis of Exception Noted by Attorney Hogan.

### NEW YORK CASHIER CALLED

Declaring that the court should not use the "judicial discretion," with which it is empowered against the defendants, Attorney Frank J. Hogan, of counsel for the defense in the Glover-Platter-Platter perjury trial today objected to the recall to the witness stand of W. Morris Lammond, former bookkeeper of the defunct firm of Lewis Johnson & Co., brokers.

Mr. Lammond was recalled after William A. Mears, former member of the brokerage firm, and G. Edwin Gregory, cashier of the National City Bank, of New York, had been examined by the prosecution relative to certain stock transactions in which the Riggs Bank officers figured.

Third Appearance.  
"After eight days we have gotten but fifteen—only partly gotten but fifteen—of the more than 500 stipulated transactions cited in the Government's bill of particulars before the court," declared Attorney Hogan when Assistant District Attorney Archer asked that Mr. Lammond be recalled to the witness stand. It marked the third appearance of the witness during the trial.

"Is this case to be parceled up for the benefit of the prosecution," he asked Mr. Hogan.

"I submit that the mode of trial is within the discretion of the court, but this discretion should not be exercised against the defendants who are presumed to be innocent until proven guilty."

Justice Siddons at this juncture stated that he believed that counsel was right if the general rule was to be followed.

(Continued on Page Sixteen.)

## FIRST PLACE GOAL OF GRIFFMEN TODAY

### Nationals Determined to Make It Tight Straight Wins in Opener With Indians.

By LOUIS A. DOUGHER.

A triple celebration is in store for the fans today at Georgia avenue. "Chick Gandil day" will bring out hundreds of friends of the former first-sacker of the Griffins.

Walter Johnson, greatest twirler in captivity, will decorate the mound against the enemy.

Winning seven games in succession, the Griffins today clash with the Cleveland Indians, who are leading the league by twelve points. A victory for the home aggregation will put them out in front of the race.

For several weeks a committee, composed of W. K. Weston, Alex. Guadalupe, and Vincent Gull, has been collecting money to make a suitable gift to the Cleveland first basemen.

Today the presentation will be made when Gandil first comes to bat, and then Johnson will proceed to show that Griff won something when he sold "Chick" to Cleveland.

Johnson demonstrated Monday that he was in marvelous form, and today he is expected to turn back the leaders and shove his own team up to the top of the ladder.

## CIVIL SERVICE MEN PLAN TO JOIN A. F. OF L.

Retirement Association President Suggests Move at Opening of Convention Here.

### MEANS TO OBTAIN PENSION

Affiliation With Labor Body Urged as Way to Get Action in Congress.

Announcement that the United States Civil Service Retirement Association will consider affiliation with the American Federation of Labor was the surprise of the opening session of the annual convention of the association today.

This announcement was made to delegates gathered in G. A. R. Hall by Daniel Goldschmidt of New York, president.

"I must call your attention to the fact that we cannot induce the committee to report a retirement bill, and the question arises: What can we do to bring sufficient influence to bear to bring about the desired result?" he said.

"There is only one thing that I know of, since it is impossible to unite all the 400,000 civil service employees into one compact body, and that is to affiliate with the American Federation of Labor."

### INTERESTED IN SUGGESTION.

The suggestion created marked interest among the delegates, and it will be the big issue at the afternoon session, which convened at 2 o'clock.

This evening a mass meeting of Government employees will be held in G. A. R. Hall. Among the speakers will be Senator Thomas Sterling, of South Dakota, and Congressman William S. Bennett and Walter M. Chandler, of New York; Edward Keating, of Colorado; Peter F. Tague, of Massachusetts; and Carl C. Van Dyke, of Minnesota. Many other public men have been invited.

President Goldschmidt said: "The Borland rider was one of the best things that ever happened in Congress. It woke up the passive employees of the District and the rest of a lethargy which seventeen years of hard work, speeches, meetings and all kinds of retirement propaganda failed to do."

### For Nolan Bill.

Goldschmidt also urged the public support of the Nolan minimum wage bill. He recommended that the association go on record as advocating taking the positions of postmasters, collectors of ports, and other employees "out of politics and putting them into the civil service."

Llewellyn Jordan, secretary, reviewed the work of the association for the past year.

He scored employees of Washington departments for failure to co-operate in the association's work.

"It seems that the rank and file of the civil service in the city of Washington are not as awakened only when confronted with some real and threatened danger to themselves and their personal emoluments," he asserted.

"An instance of this alarm was manifested by the famous Borland rider which contemplated the extension of the hours of labor with no provision for increased compensation or compensatory allowance for such labor."

Dr. Jordan approved the Keating measure to establish a civil service court to hear grievances of employees. He suggested that efforts be made to get a plank in the party platform in the party platform.

### Colonel House For Pension.

William J. Egan, of New York, read a letter from Col. E. M. House, in which he said "it gives me pleasure to express the hope that an adequate pension bill properly protecting Government employees may be passed in the near future."

## District Dealt Hard Blow In 1917 Budget Which Puts Bulk of Expenses on City

ESTIMATES SLASHED  
BY MORE THAN  
\$3,500,000

Bill Appropriates Little for Civic Improvements Beyond the Essential Needs.

### A RETRENCHMENT MEASURE

Commissioners Turned Down in Several Important Recommendations, Report Shows.

The passing of the half-and-half plan, which has applied to the fiscal relations between the Federal and District governments for nearly forty years, was written into prospective law today when the District of Columbia appropriation bill was reported to the House.

That bill, carrying approximately \$3,500,000 less than the amount asked by the District Commissioners, provides that hereafter District revenue shall be exhausted before the contribution of the Federal Government to its Capital City begins. This is in line with the recommendations of the fiscal inquiry committee, which held an investigation last year.

The initial bill under the new system strikes a hard blow at the District. It is frankly admitted by the House Committee on Appropriations in its report that the District is expected to furnish 69.3 per cent of the authorized expenditures for the next fiscal year, and the Federal Government will contribute only 30.6 per cent (a fraction of 1 per cent being unestimated).

### LITTLE FOR CIVIC BEAUTY.

The bill appropriates little for civic improvements beyond the most essential requirements. There is practically nothing in the measure that will add to the beautification or improvement of the National Capital, and consequently the Federal Government's contribution is nowhere near that of the District, whose revenues first are to be exhausted.

In dollars and cents the District supports itself to the extent of \$3,300,000 and the Federal Government trails along by supplying approximately \$6,000,000.

While the District appropriation bill has a number of legislative "riders," the commissioners in their estimate is not included. The estimates of the city heads were slashed mercilessly; in fact the District budget is smaller than that of last year.

Some Salaries Increases.  
There is a sprinkling of salary increases for municipal employees and a promotion authorized here and there, but the bill in the main is one of retrenchment at the expense of the District and general Treasury, respectively, and the appropriations for the water service (payable wholly out of the water revenues) amounts to \$11,845,734, being \$5,788,999 less than the estimates submitted to Congress, and \$55,170,111 less than the whole appropriations made for the current fiscal year.

The amount carried, exclusive of the water service, is \$11,611,907.31. There is (Continued on Sixth Page.)

## Citizens May Urge Four D. C. Bills

Federation Asked to Press for Passage of Firemen's Pension and Other Measures.

Special request that the firemen's and policemen's pension bill be passed at this session may be made of Congress by the Federation of Citizens' Associations.

A special meeting probably will be held to consider the matter. The firemen's bill providing that assessments for street improvements shall not be made payable until the thoroughfares are open for use, it is expected, also will be urged with two others.

William McK. Clayton, chairman of the commission on public utilities of the Federation and John G. McGrath, president of the Park View Citizens' Association, alternate delegates to the federation, expressed themselves today as in favor of the plan.

### ESTIMATES REJECTED

In cutting out more than \$3,000,000 from the estimates of the District Commissioners, the House Appropriations Committee—

1. Rejected recommendations for the purchase of the Dean and Patterson tracts for parking purposes—\$1,125,000.
2. Cut estimates for public school buildings and grounds—\$500,000.
3. Disallowed estimates for municipal garbage plant, hospital, and lodging house.
4. Turned down request for several additional convenience stations and also repairs at markets.
5. Rejected many proposed salary increases and minor repairs at various District institutions.
6. Dropped projects for beautifying city.
7. Refused authorization for new Calvert street bridge across Rock Creek.
8. Disregarded many recommendations for legislation, including those relating to supervision of Washington aqueduct, annual license fee for automobilists, annual assessments of real estate, control by Commissioners of Board of Charities, Board of Children's Guardians, and Board of Education and other provisions increasing general authority of the Commissioners.

## MAYO TO COMMAND FLEET IN ATLANTIC

Fletcher to Get Shore Duty After June 19—Realignment of Ships.

Following a conference between Secretary Daniels and President Wilson today it was learned the Atlantic fleet will be reorganized, and a new commander named to succeed Admiral Fletcher. Admiral Mayo will succeed Admiral Fletcher. The change will be made June 19.

Rear Admiral D. W. Coffman, of the Seventh division, will succeed Mayo, and the detail of Fletcher to important shore service will be announced later.

Fletcher, in June, will have completed about the usual time of service in his position—one year and nine months.

Mayo is the man who precipitated the trouble with Huerta, which resulted in the occupation of Vera Cruz by American forces.

Mayo insisted that Huerta salute the American flag because of the arrest of American marines at Tampico when they went ashore to get mail.

Huerta never gave the salute. Later marines were landed at Vera Cruz, and Admiral Fletcher was in command of that movement.

## French Have New Monster Airships

Each of New Craft Will Mount One of the Famous "Soixante-Quinze" Guns.

PARIS, May 2 (by mail).—Monster French air cruisers—each mounting one of the famous "soixante-quinze" guns, so destructive at Verdun—will be in action against German's air forces before many weeks.

Successful experiments with this new terror of the air have just been completed.

In all probability Sergeant Aviator Trelli Grandseigne, hero of several recent air exploits, will pilot the first of the new battle planes. He has been directing the experiments in which huge aeroplanes have carried the "15" in rehearsal of air battles.

It was declared by delegates that a 20 per cent raise was justified because of the increased cost of production. It was shown that the oyster was the only commodity that had not advanced in price during the last ten years.

## ENVOY WARNS GERMANS HERE TO OBEY LAWS

Bernstorff Instructs Consuls to Impress Citizens With Duties to United States.

### SPECULATION IS AROUSED

Instructions Believed to Have Come From Berlin—Harm to Cause Was Feared.

The first step in the new German campaign to stop lawlessness by Germans in the United States was announced today by Ambassador Bernstorff. The embassy made the following formal statement:

"In consequence of cases that have occurred of late, German Ambassador Bernstorff sent instructions to all the German consuls in the United States to strongly impress on German citizens living in their districts that it is their duty scrupulously to obey the laws of the States in which they reside."

Although von Bernstorff would not have issued such instructions without direction from Berlin, it is known that he was instrumental in showing the German foreign office the wisdom of such a policy.

He has for some time argued with Berlin officials that, notwithstanding Germany's official disclaimer of responsibility for German violations of American laws, such independent acts were doing the German cause in America a great deal of harm and that it would be wise for Germany to take even more energetic steps to convince the United States that she was in no way responsible for what had occurred.

### CAUSES SPECULATION.

Today's action caused much speculation in Washington as to how much further the German government may go in the matter.

Carl W. Ackerman, United Press staff correspondent, in a dispatch from Berlin last Saturday told of steps being considered.

"A quiet movement to quell German plotters and propagandists in the United States has been under way for some time," he said.

"Though the German government has disclaimed all responsibility for the acts of bomb plotters in the United States, Chancellor Bethmann-Hollweg believes that some sort of drastic action should be taken to convince Americans that Germany has nothing to do with the plotters' operations."

## Says Pope Asked End of U-Boat War

Sir Edward Grey Tells House of Commons Vatican Made Representations to Germany.

LONDON, May 18.—Sir Edward Grey, British foreign minister, told the House of Commons this afternoon that he had been informed that the Vatican had made representations to Germany, questioning an abandonment of submarine warfare.

## French Troops Capture Position Near Hill 304

PARIS, May 18.—French troops stormed and captured a small, well-defended German fort northeast of Hill 304, in a sharp attack on the German positions northwest of Verdun at 3 o'clock this morning, the war office announced today.

At the same time French detachments captured a German trench on Hill 267, west of Hill 304, killing or imprisoning all of the occupants.

These successful French attacks followed the repulse of strong assaults on French positions northwest of Verdun in fighting that continued throughout the night.